

# Cumberland Fire District Transitional Committee Meeting

Minutes February 24, 2014 7:00pm

Hayden Library

The commissioners for the Cumberland Fire District Transitional Committee in attendance – John McCoy NCFD, Michael Spaziani NCFD and Dana Jones CFD, James Leonard CFD, Ron Champagne CHFD, James Scullin VFFD, Gerard Dion VFFD absent Arthur Cowell CHFD,

Meeting called to order at 7:15pm.

Motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting and February notice were accepted.

Financial/Legal – John McCoy VFIS is looking into having insurance in place for the new fire district on day one. He has been in contact with Brad Preston via email. Something must be done or there will be no coverage once the 4 districts cease to exist. Mike – Brad should go with numbers of the 4 districts and quote a new district price with same equipment and districts. John McCoy went through the updated budgets. The Net is not that different down about 10K to 7.05M. The chiefs' suggestion to budget 100K for a truck reserve fund would push the budget to 7.15M. He anticipates a saving from administrative and equipment to be around 175K. Mike Spaziani requested the districts get their budget drafts to John as quickly as possible.

Buildings & Apparatus – Still in the process of discussing with Sean Thompson using space at rescue headquarters for administrative space. Mike Spaziani stated he will get together with the chiefs to discuss options on new, new/used or existing for administrative functions.

Labor – Mike Spaziani stated currently three contracts are in negotiation with CHFD complete through 6/2015. No negotiation on consolidated contract until the remaining districts complete their current contracts through 6/2015. John McCoy some of the basics should be done. Mike would like to investigate bringing on a fire administrator or finance manager from out side this board. This was a suggestion from the focus groups. This would be a good thing for the combined districts and he would like to get the input of the chiefs and union. A job description would have to be defined. All four districts would have to approve a line item in their budgets to support this position. It should be around 10K per district. Some questions --- who would the employer be? What are the responsibilities? Would the person have a fire and finance background. John McCoy would like to see this person as the point for contracts and insurance consolidation.

Media – Gerry Dion spoke to the Valley Breeze to get a history of the four districts. He stated that Ernie Cimino was on board for the Valley. NCFD hasn't put anyone on it at this time. The article is scheduled for sometime in the late summer.

## Old Business

Individual Districts Liabilities - CHFD retiree dental is based on written agreement 2 are paid via the district and 3 are reimbursed to the district. Mike Spaziani stated he needed the documentation to protect them. Ron Champagne said he could dig for it.

District participation – Mike Spaziani noted that there was no official meeting last month due to lack of attendance, He thanked everyone for attending and understood that Arthur Cowell would be back from Florida in time for next months meeting.

New Business – Focus Group for the public led by Chief Cimino. Mike Spaziani noted that the focus group discussions have collected a long list of items for consideration. He hoped to reach out to the chiefs and union for volunteers to take on tasks. Each district would give the person the authority to get quotes.

## Public Comment

Next Meeting – March 24, 2014 7pm

A focus group from the public followed.

Meeting adjourned 7:35.